

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ROME 06881 281741Z
ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IOE-00 ONY-00 SSO-00 /014 W
-----281848Z 032159 /47 R
O 281616Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4247

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FOR IO ASSISTANT SECRETARY MAYNES

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: FAO, AORG, EAGR
SUBJ: FAO PROGRAM OF WORK AND BUDGET 1978-1979

REF: STATE 95385, PARA 7.

1. TUESDAY APRIL 26 CONVERSATION WITH FAO DIRECTOR-GENERAL SAOUMA MADE IT CRYSTAL-CLEAR THAT HE CONSIDERS HIS HOLDING BUDGET PROPOSAL DOWN TO \$206.8 MILLION, WITH REAL INCREASE OF ONLY 6.8 PERCENT, TO BE A FAVOR TO US AND OTHER MAJOR CONTRIBUTORS RATHER THAN VICE VERSA, AND WE ARE OF UNANIMOUS OPINION HERE THAT HE WOULD NEVER AGREE TO TRADE HIS TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROGRAM FOR OUR AGREEMENT ON THIS BUDGET LEVEL. IT MUST BE REMEMBERED THAT GENEVA GROUP HAS ENGAGED HIM IN DIALOGUE SINCE AUTUMN 1976, AND HE HAS REPEATEDLY CITED 7 PERCENT AS HIS REAL INCREASE MAXIMUM, WITHOUT DEMURRER FROM ANYONE. HE HAS CONSULTED NOT ONLY WITH GENEVA GROUP COUNTRIES, BUT ALSO WITH GROUP-77, SOCIALIST GROUP, AND ALL OTHER MEMBER GOVERNMENTS ON BUDGET LEVEL AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROGRAM, AND DISSEMINATED IN MARCH HIS SUMMARY OF THE PROGRAM OF WORK AND BUDGET FOR 1978-1979 TO ALL MEMBER GOVERNMENTS.

2. IT IS MY JUDGMENT THAT FOR US TO GO TO HIM AGAIN AT THIS POINT TO ENGAGE IN QUID PRO QUO BARGAINING WOULD BE UTTERLY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FUTILE AND A SOURCE OF FURTHER IRRITATION.

3. I INTEND FIRST TO CONSULT WITH OTHER GENEVA GROUP REPRESENTATIVES, TO SEE IF WE HAVE ANY SUPPORT FROM OTHER GOVERNMENTS, BEFORE I TALK FURTHER WITH THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL IN DETAIL, UNLESS I AM INSTRUCTED TO THE CONTRARY. I WILL REPORT THE RESULTS OF MY CONSULTATION WITH THE GENEVA GROUP APRIL 29, TOGETHER WITH

MY RECOMMENDATIONS AS TO FURTHER REPRESENTATIONS TO THE DIRECTOR-
GENERAL ON MAY 2. GARDNER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: BUDGETS, REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, COMMITTEES, MEETING REPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 28-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977ROME06881
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770148-1269
Format: TEL
From: ROME
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t1977049/aaaaahdl.tel
Line Count: 64
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 566079aa-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Reference: 77 STATE 95385, 77 PARAMARIBO 7
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2902888
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FAO PROGRAM OF WORK AND BUDGET 1978-1979
TAGS: AORG, EAGR, FAO
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/566079aa-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009